

33654 Couser Canyon Road  
Valley Center, CA, 92082

August 15, 2000

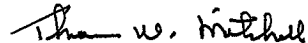
Mr. Steve Ritchie, Acting Executive Director  
Cal-Fed Bay-Delta Program  
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155  
Sacramento, CA 95814

I am very unhappy with the decision of you people at Cal-Fed not to hold public hearings on your final environmental report released on July 21st, and also with the very limited time that you have allowed people to study and then respond to this report in writing.

Rather than appropriating a quarter of a million acres of private farmlands, Cal-Fed should use these funds to develop more surface water storage to prepare for future drought years that will surely come.

Water conservation has been and will continue to be an important factor but your plan relies on conservation far too heavily and does not adequately address the need for new storage.

Sincerely,



Thomas W. Mitchell